

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed November 29, 2005. Applicant cancels Claims 1-12 and 20-31 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant previously canceled Claim 18 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant adds new Claims 32-37, which are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Allowed Claims

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of Claims 13-19. Additionally, Applicant notes that newly-added Claims 32-37 include elements substantially similar to those of Claims 13-19 that the Examiner indicates are not disclosed by the cited references. Thus, new Claims 32-37 are also allowable in accordance with the Examiner's indications.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-7 and 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,427,178 issued to Collin et al. ("*Collin*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,066 issued to Weaver ("*Weaver*") and U.S. Patent No. 6,243,778 issued to Fung ("*Fung*"). For the purposes of expediting prosecution, Applicant cancels Claims 1-7 and 20-26 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby obviating the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-7 and 20-26. Applicant respectfully notes that, with respect to all of the cancellations and amendments herein, Applicant reserves the right to pursue broader subject matter than that presently claimed through the filing of continuations and/or other related applications.

The Examiner rejects Claims 8-10 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Collin*, *Weaver* and *Fung* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,953,741 issued Envoy et al. ("*Envoy*"). For the purposes of expediting prosecution, Applicant cancels Claims 8-10 and 27-29 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby obviating the Examiner's rejection of Claims 8-10 and 27-29.

The Examiner rejects Claims 11-12, 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Collin*, *Weaver*, *Fund* and *Envoy* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,449,292

issued to Weeber ("*Weeber*"). For the purposes of expediting prosecution, Applicant cancels Claims 11-12, 30 and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby obviating the Examiner's rejection of Claims 11-12, 30 and 31.

New Claims

Applicant adds new Claims 32-37, which are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. As noted above, Claims 32-37 include elements substantially similar to those of Claims 13-19 that the Examiner indicates are not disclosed, taught, or suggested by the cited references. Claims 32-37 are thus allowable in accordance with the Examiner's indications. Applicant respectfully requests consideration and full allowance of Claims 32-37.

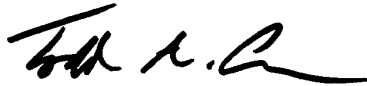
Conclusions

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending Claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicant stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

No fees are believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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